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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/932,213	08/17/2001	William Webb	25216-0863	5012

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EXAMINER

CHANG, KENT WU

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2675

DATE MAILED: 03/10/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

09/932,213

**Applicant(s)**

WEBB ET AL.

**Examiner**

Kent Chang

**Art Unit**

2675

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 January 2005.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/24/05 has been entered.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Boesen (US Patent No.6,542,721).

Consider claims 41, 42. Boesen discloses a mobile device having a first segment with a first input feature (the touch panel section 38); a second segment with a second input feature (keypad section 22) moveably coupled to the first segment to move between a contracted position and an extended position along

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one axis; a display assembly provided by the first segment; wherein the second segment overlays a portion of the first segment when the second segment is in the contracted position so as to reduce a length of the mobile device (see column 5 lines 23-40 and Figure 7).

Consider claim 43. The second segment has a plurality of buttons (22).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

6. Claims 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boesen (US Patent No.6,542,721).

Consider claim 44. Boesen discloses a mobile device having a first segment with a first input feature (the touch panel section 38); a second segment with a second input feature (keypad section 22) moveably coupled to the first segment to move between a contracted position and an extended position along one axis;

a display assembly provided by the first segment; wherein the second segment overlays a portion of the first segment when the second segment is in the contracted position so as to reduce a length of the mobile device (see column 5 lines 23-40 and Figure 7). In one of the embodiment (as shown in Fig.8), Boesen further teaches that the first segment having a reduced section (28) that has a lesser thickness than the remainder of the first portion (24) so as to allow a portion of the first segment being easily accessible from the same surface level as the second surface level while in the contacted position, but still having the advantage of a reduced length of the mobile device. Obviously, the portion of the first segment being overlaid by the second segment could have varied from none to full length dependent on user's choice, a longer overlaid portion would have lead to a smaller size of the device, while a shorter overlaid portion would have provided more input functions to the user.

7. Claims 1, 3-22, 24-40 and 45-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boesen (US Patent No.6,542,721).

Boesen discloses a mobile device having a first segment; a second segment with a first input feature (keypad section 22) moveably coupled to the first segment to move between a contracted position and an extended position along one axis; a display assembly provided by the first segment, wherein the portion of the display assembly is accessible to contact by a user when the second segment is in the extended position; wherein the second segment overlays the first segment when the second segment is in the contracted position

so as to reduce a length of the mobile device as recited in claims 1, 19-21, 27-29, 45-50 (see column 5 lines 23-40 and Figure 7). Obviously, the portion of the first segment being overlaid by the second segment could have varied from none to full length dependent on user's choice, a longer overlaid portion would have lead to a smaller size of the device, while a shorter overlaid portion would have provided more input functions to the user.

Consider claims 2 and 23. It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to replace the touch screen 38 with a small touch screen and a touch pad so as reduce manufacturing cost of the device. However, such a modification would have resulted to a touch screen with a small size.

Consider claims 3 and 22. The device of Boesen includes character recognition (column 4 lines 53-57).

Consider claim 4. The second segment in the device of Boesen includes a plurality of buttons (22) overlaying the portion of the display assembly.

Consider claims 5-7. Boesen further teaches to provide additional function buttons or other inputs (column 3 lines 51-55). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Boesen's device to include other known input functions such as multi-directional member, touch pad as suggested by Boesen so as to provide the user additional input functions.

The device of Boesen includes a front shell (portion of 4), a midframe (portion of 38), a bottom shell (portion of 24), a first rail and a second rail, a first connecting member and a second connecting member to enable the second segment slide to the first segment (see figures 6 and 7). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to housing the rails and connecting members in two side surface, the back surface, or other places of the mobile device since the device would function equally well with the rails and connecting members locating in any places (as recited in claims 8-18, 24-26, 30-37, 40). Furthermore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use additional rails (as recited in claim 38-39) in the device of Boesen so as to enable easy moving of the two segments.

### ***Response to Arguments***

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-50 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kent Chang whose telephone number is 703-305-4824. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz, can be reached at 571-272-3638.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

**703-872-9306**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Kent Chang  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2675

kc

3/4/05